Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /054 W

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P R 041520Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY MADRID TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9217 AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS MADRID 1673

LONDON FOR DEPASSSEC BILLER OR MR. STYLES US-UK CIVAIR TALKS

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, XT, US, SP

SUBJECT: CIVAIR SPANISH PRESS REPORTS IBERIA CAB NORTH ATLANTIC FARES

DISPUTE

REF: MADRID 1646

1. SPANISH PRESS MARCH 4 CARRIED WASHINGTON DATELINE REPORT ON CAB TURNDOWN "FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE TIME" OF NORTH ATALNATIC FARES FILED BY IBERIA FOR PERIOD STARTING APRIL 1. ARTICLE REFERS TO "GRAVE CONFLICT IN CIVIL AVIATION FIELD" AND PLACES BLAME COMPETELY ON NORTH AMERICAN (US) GOVERNMENTAL BUREAUCRACY" FOR REFUSING TO ACCEPT NEW FARES. REPORT STATES THAT SPANISH TEAM, UNDER DIRECTOR GENERAL AIR TRANSPORT YNIGUEZ, "WILL COMMENCE TALKS" MARCH 14 IN WASHINGTON WITH AIM OF NEW "NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT" ON FARES.

2. IBERIA PROPOSED FARE MENTIONED IN PRESS, "256 DOLLARS ROUND TRIP" NEW YORK MADRID, AIMED AT FILLING 30 PER CENT OF SEATS ALLOTED IN EACH FLIGHT
FOR SPECIAL FARE. IBERIA FARES REPORTEDLY TURNED DOWN BY CAB ON

EVE OF APPROVAL IATA FILING, WITH WHICH IBERIA FAILED AGREE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SPITE COINCIDENCE OF IBERIA PRESIDENT MANUEL DE PRADO ALSO SERVING IATA PRESIDENT THIS YEAR. SPANISH NEGOTIATORS "WILL INSIST" ON AT LEAST "PARTIAL APPROVAL" OF NEW IBERIA FARES, REPORT CONTINUES, SO THAT NUMBER PASSENGERS CAN BE INCREASED AND OPERATING DEFIT ELIMINATED.

3. COMMENT: NOT SURPRISINGLY SPANISH SPOKESMAN (PRESUMABLY AT

SPANISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON) DID NOT MENTION OTHER ASPECTS OF IBERIA FILING, I.E. MAINTAINING HIGH LEVEL OF FIRST CLASS AND ECONOMY REGULAR FARES WHICH IS MAIN BASIS CAB OBJECTIONS. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIAE CONFIRMATION THAT US OFFICIALS ARE PREPARED TO MEET WITH SPANISH DELEGATION STARTING MARCH 14.EATON

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: EAIR, SOPN, XT, US, SP, CAB, IBERIA To: STATE LONDON

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